Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-13. (Cancelled).

14. (Original) An apparatus comprising:

a conditional access module having a slot sized to receive a card having a first form factor; and

an adapter configured for insertion into the slot and for receipt of a card having a second form factor different than the first form factor, the adapter to use out of band (OOB) signals to send a serial transport stream to the card having the second form factor.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the card having the first form factor is a NRSS-B module and the card having the second form factor is a NRSS-A module.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the NRSS-B module is a PCMCIA card and the NRSS-A module is a smart card.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the conditional access module comprises:

a first converter to convert a scrambled data stream in a parallel format into a serial signal for output to the adapter, and

a second converter to receive a descrambled serial data stream from the adapter and to convert the descrambled serial data stream into a descrambled data stream in a parallel format.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the conditional access module further comprises a first switch coupled to the first converter and a second switch coupled to the second converter.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the first switch of the conditional access module receives as input the scrambled data stream in the parallel format and the second switch of the conditional access module outputs the descrambled data stream in the parallel format.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the adapter is configured to read data from ISO contacts of the smart card.

21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the first switch of the conditional access module is configured to provide data and clock signals when the PCMCIA card is inserted into the slot in lieu of the adapter.

22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the conditional access module further comprises a third switch coupled to the first converter to receive the serial signal, an output of the third switch is coupled to an out-of-band (OOB) pin of the adapter.

23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the third switch of the conditional access module is coupled to receive as input (i) at least one data bit from the first switch and (ii) the serial signal from the first converter.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14 is a set-top box.

25-32. (Cancelled).

33. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a conditional access module; and

means for enabling the conditional access module to communicate with either a first card having a first form factor or a second card having a second form factor differing from the first form factor.

34. (New) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the means for enabling including a connector of the conditional access module and an adapter configured for coupling to the connector when the conditional access module is configured to the second card.

35. (New) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the first card is a PCMCIA card and the second card is a smart card.

36. (New) The apparatus of claim 35 wherein the adapter is configured to read data from ISO contacts of the smart card.

37. (New) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the conditional access module comprises:

a first converter to convert a scrambled data stream in a parallel format into a serial signal for output to the adapter for transmission to the second card, and

a second converter to receive a descrambled serial data stream from the adapter and to convert the descrambled serial data stream into a descrambled data stream in a parallel format.

38. (New) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the conditional access module further comprises a first switch coupled to the first converter and a second switch coupled to the second converter, the first switch of the conditional access module receives as input the scrambled data stream in the parallel format and the second switch of the conditional access module outputs the descrambled data stream in the parallel format.

39. (New) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the first switch of the conditional access module is configured to provide data and clock signals when the PCMCIA card is inserted into a slot of the conditional access module that is adapted for receipt of either the PCMCIA card to be connected to the connector or the adapter.

40. (New) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the conditional access module further comprises a third switch coupled to the first converter to receive the serial signal, an output of the third switch is coupled to an out-of-band (OOB) pin of the adapter.

41. (New) A set-top box comprising:

a conditional access module including a slot sized to receive a first card having a first form factor or an adapter including a receipt of a second card having a second form factor different than the first form factor; and

a card reader in electrical contact with the second card when inserted into the adapter.